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VACAVALLEY RADIO CLUB

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VACAVILLE , CALIFORNIA **July 2015**

You never know when or where you will meet a fellow ham operator

Part of the B-47 team arrives at Newmont Mining

Apparently I had a serious problem with my e-mail service since June 18 and wasn't receiving any e-mail at all. The vendor seems to have it fixed now.

Since I didn't get info on the Field Day I hope to include it in the next issue. In the meantime here's why I didn't attend it.

I had made a promise to go with Dave Trojan (some of you might remember him at a couple of our club meetings) on an expedition to site and record several old military aircraft crash sites. Four of the first sites were relatively easy with the fourth one more difficult to climb to.

The last one was a B-47 crash that occurred July 18, 1957. The area is located on Newmont Mining Company property and required escort to the site. Accompanying us were the supervisor and two geologists

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IN THIS ISSUE

Meet a HAM----------1, 2 & 3
Origin of 73----------3
You don't dp VHF----------4
HexBeam Shutting Down----------4
Tater People----------4
Space Buoy----------5
RCC Award----------5
Application and Misc----------6

John Craycraft, wife Evelyn & son Joe with the plaque

of the company. I have to say they treated us extremely well and all are now counted by the members of the

Continued on Page 2------->

VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB--2013

ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Frank Garay, KJ6RWQ
Vice President: Kim, KJ6JNX
Secretary: Skip Lawson, AF6HC
Treasurer: Bob Hewitt, K6HEW

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director: Antonio DelRio, N6ZGB
Director: Chris Jones, KD7TQO
Director: Arthur Miller, KI6UXE
Director: Richard Craig, KJ6MIB

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Net Control Chairperson: Chris Jones, KD7TQO
Club Activities Chairperson: Board of Directors
Newsletter Editor: Jerry Bowen, KJ6SCC
Newsletter Publisher & Distributor: Bob Hewitt, K6HEW

Climbing up from the vehicles to the monument site

expedition as good friends.

I was a wee bit worn out from the previous hikes to crash sites in rapid order (2 days) with the increasing requirement to climb up to about 6 to 8,000 feet in elevation in some cases. I was foolish to think it would be easy to keep up with young folks 60 and younger.

At any rate the most satisfying memory was the trek and placement of a bronze plaque at the B-47 crash site.

John Craycraft, son of the B-47 forward observer, Captain Robert E. Craycraft, was one of the crew that made the climb to the place where his father died. Accompanying John were his wife, Evelyn and son, Joe.

He had a bronze plaque and a stainless steel base built memorializing the crew members killed in the crash built to be placed at the site.

The Newmont Mining crew had set up a camp near the crash site to feed and keep everyone with plenty of water as well as all the materials needed to permanently mount the plaque further up the mountain.

From the camp we four-wheeled up as close as we could to the selected site. The remaining climb of five to seven hundred feet required walking and an ATV provided by Newmont to get the plaque and materials to the selected location.

Several members continued searching the surrounding area to record and photograph the very many parts of the aircraft. None of the parts of the aircraft were removed from the site.

Meanwhile Newmont Mine, Supervisor & geologist Jeff Blackmon, geologists Jason Watt, and Dave Schwarz along with other members of the expedition went to work preparing the plaque site.

Wreckage of the B47's throttles

It was a tough job carrying the cement, water, tools, plaque and wood frame to the rock from the ATV. But everything went smoothly and the plaque was installed successfully.

It was then that I learned that any site visited by members always planted a flag in memory of a crewman killed in the crash. The monument received the flag and

Dave Trojan read the dedication as John Craycraft prepares to blow taps

John Craycraft played taps after a reading of the monument by Dave Trojan. Their probably wasn't a dry eye amongst the attendees.

At the end of the day Jeff Blackmon invited all to his home for a barbeque. You can't beat these folks who

Everyone posed together for a photo at the end of the day

shared their knowledge of mining and answers to the many questions by expedition members.

It was great working with such a closely knit crew of people who worked together in all respects and the Newmont Mining folks are to be commended for their outstanding efforts and friendliness to make all this happen.

Oh yeah…about that headline "You never know when or where you will meet a fellow ham operator." John Craycraft is a "Ham." His call letters are **WQ7E.** He operates mostly on 80 meters from Woodinville, Washington. His previous call was **K1JDC** and he holds an Extra Class License.

ORIGIN OF 73

Date: Jun 7, 2015 11:48 AM

Here is what the web site http://www.ac6v.com/73.htm had to say about it.-

-ORIGIN OF 73 -Via Louise Ramsey Moreau, W3WRE and Charles A. Wimer KC8EHA -The following is from Louise Ramsey Moreau, W3WRE: "The traditional expression "73" goes right back to the beginning of the landline telegraph days. It is found in some of the earliest editions of the numerical codes, each with a different definition, but each with the same idea in mind - it indicated that the end, or signature, was coming up. But there are no data to prove that any of these were used. -

"The first authentic use of 73 is in the publication The National Telegraphic Review and Operators' Guide, first published in April 1857. At that time, 73 meant "My love to you"! Succeeding issues of this publication continued to use this definition of the term. Curiously enough, some of the other numerals used then had the

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same definition as they have now, but within a short time, the use of 73 began to change.

"In the National Telegraph Convention, the numeral was changed from the Valentine-type sentiment to a vague sign of fraternalism. Here, 73 was a greeting, a friendly "word" between operators and it was so used on all wires. -

"In 1859, the Western Union Company set up the standard "92 Code." A list of numerals from one to 92 was compiled to indicate a series of prepared phrases for use by the operators on the wires. Here, in the 92 Code, 73 changes from a fraternal sign to a very flowery "accept my compliments, "which was in keeping with the florid language of that era.

"Over the years from 1859 to 1900, the many manuals of telegraphy show variations of this meaning. Dodge's The Telegraph Instructor shows it merely as "compliments." The Twentieth Century Manual of Railways and Commercial Telegraphy defines it two ways, one listing as "my compliments to you"; but in the glossary of abbreviations it is merely "compliments." -

Theodore A. Edison's Telegraphy Self-Taught shows a return of "accept my compliments." By 1908, however, a later edition of the Dodge Manual gives us today's definition of "best regards" with a backward look at the older meaning in another part of the work where it also lists it as "compliments." -Editor Note — Dodge's "The Telegraph Instructor" can be found at URL: http://artifaxbooks.com/afxrare/dodge.htm-"Best regards" has remained ever since as the "put-it-down-in-black-and-white" meaning of 73 but it has acquired overtones of much warmer meaning.

Today, amateurs use it more in the manner that James Reid had intended that it be used - a "friendly word between operators." I hope that this helps you in some way.... -

73, Charles A. Wimer Amateur Radio Call: KC8EHA Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Trumbull County (OH) ARRL Official Emergency Station (OH)

Visit the Repeater online courtesy of Bob K6HEW at: vacavalleyradio.net

Club repeater in Vacaville:W6VVR 145.470 MHz(-) pl 127.3
The W6VVR net call is Tuesday evenings at 8pm on the club repeater. All are invited to participate in this weekly meeting on the air. 73!

Additional local repeaters
WV6F 224.200(-)
WV6F 440.025(+)
WV6F 1291.900(-)

THE BIT BUCKET

You "don't do VHF?"

Many modern transceivers have coverage for 6 meters. Why not try that band in the June VHF+ Contest? Try making a simple dipole for the band if your current antennas don't cover it. If you try listening on 50.125 USB (the calling frequency), you'll likely hear locals announcing that they're lisening (and likely calling CQ) at some other frequency, like 50.145. Don't like phone? Try CW just below 50.100 for domestic contacts. As VHF+ antennas are relatively small, you could also try a portable operation from a hilltop or other elevated location. Be safe, have fun!

73, Brian N9ADG

Tater People

Some people never seem motivated to participate, but are just content to watch while others do the work
They are called "Speck Taters".

Some people never do anything to help, but are gifted at finding fault with the way others do the work.
They are called "Comment Taters".

Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their own hands.
They are called "Dick Taters".

Some people are always looking to cause problems by asking others to agree with them. It is too hot or too cold, too sour or too sweet.
They are called "Agie Taters."

There are those who say they will help, but somehow just never get around to do so.
They are called "Hezzie Taters."

Some people can put up a front and pretend to be someone they are not.
They are called "Emma Taters".

Then there are those who love others and do what they say they will. They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand. They bring real sunshine into the lives of others.
They are called "Sweet Taters".

NET CONTROL OPERATORS

1st week of month-Jerry Bowen; KJ6SCC
2nd week of month-Richard Craig; KJ6MIB
3rd week of month-Frank Garay; KJ6RWQ
4th week of month-Jerry Olive, KD6WKY
On months with 5 weeks-Bob Hewitt; K6HEW

HEX-BEAM ® Manufacturer Traffie Technologies Shutting Down

Traffie Technologies, the Massachusetts-based family business that has pioneered and manufactured the HEX-BEAM line of rotatable wire beams, is closing its doors.

"This is to inform everyone that we are closing down production of the HEX-BEAM®," an announcement on the HEX-BEAM website said. The company's principal, Mike Traffie, N1HXA, has indicated that he is open to having someone else take over the business.

The small firm came into being in 1992, and HEX-BEAM antennas have been developed for 40 meters through 2 meters in various monoband and multiband versions. The company's latest product is the HX5Bi, which covers 10, 12, 15, 17, and 20 meters.

THE VVRC WELCOMES YOU

The Vaca Valley Radio Club has proudly served the Northern Solano County Area since 1988. We pride ourselves in providing a friendly place for radio amateurs to meet and improve their operating skills.

We participate in public service events throughout the year and are always ready to assist with communications during times of emergency.

Browsw our website for more information about our club. If you have any questions please e-mail us at w6vvr@w6vvr.net or call 707-448-5665 for assistance

The Repeater is Published by the Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625-0143, An ARRL Affiliated Club. Founded 1987, Chartered 1988. General Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM 420 Elmira Fire Station.

Wheelchair accessible

Check out the excellent the biography about Jerry Olive, KD6WKY, in the June issue of the Northern California Contest Club Newsletter "The Jug" on pages Pg 9-12

http://www.nccc.cc/jug/2015/06Jun2015.pdf

Space 'buoy' may help protect Earth's power grid from sun's fury

By Bloomberg News From page B8 | July 05, 2015

Earth's electrical grids will soon get a little more protection from solar eruptions.

After flying 1 million miles since its Feb. 11 launch, the Deep Space Climate Observatory, DSCOVR for short, will look to the sun starting next month and warn people about solar ejections that can damage Earth's magnetic field and disrupt the grids, global positioning systems and communications networks.

The satellite is part of a system that the U.S. Space Weather Prediction Center in Boulder, Colorado, uses to warn power companies, airlines and other susceptible industries about potentially adverse conditions.

"It is probably one of the most important links in the chain," said Howard Singer, chief scientist at the center, who likens the satellite to a warning buoy at sea. "If you don't have the input, you cannot run the model that is going to tell you about the activity."

DSCOVR is going through instrument checks that will take about a month, Singer said. When those are complete, the Earth will have 30 to 60 minutes' notice on the composition of the next coronal mass ejection headed our way. Ejections are explosions of the magnetic fields and plasma from the sun. Hundreds occur each year depending on the sunspot cycle, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the vast majority don't come Earth's direction.

A disturbance of the magnitude of the 1859 Carrington Event, which caused the failure of telegraph systems in North America and Europe, could cost $1 trillion to $2 trillion in the first year and take four to 10 years to recover from, according to a National Research Council report.

Observers on Earth use telescopes, coronagraphs and other satellites to monitor the sun's flares and ejections. The instruments in the satellite will help determine the makeup of the energy and predict where the worst impacts will occur.

"We won't be able to say what is happening in New York City, but we can say what is happening on the East Coast," Singer said.

Singer likened the satellite to hurricane hunters: air crews from the Air Force Reserve and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that fly into tropical systems in the Atlantic and eastern Pacific. The flights provide detailed information that improves forecasts of a storm's strength and track.

Solar eruptions move much faster than hurricanes. In August 1972, a coronal mass ejection covered the 92 million miles from the sun in 14.5 hours, Singer said, and knocked out long-distance telephone service across Illinois.

The proliferation of electronic devices since then means "we have actually become more susceptible from the effects of space weather," he added.

Mobile devices, electric grids and satellites are at risk. While Earth's magnetic field protects people on the ground from being vaporized by these big events, astronauts, airline passengers and crews flying near the polar regions can get a dose of radiation.

DSCOVR will be struck by Earth-bound solar ejections, sending information to the Space Weather Prediction Center 30 to 60 minutes before they hit the planet, giving operators a chance to take preventive action.

The Rag Chewers' Club Award

The Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio (SPAR) is pleased to offer the ever-popular Rag Chewers' Club award. This prestigious award is available to all amateur radio operators who submit evidence of having "chewed the rag" using amateur radio.

History. The Rag Chewers' Club award was offered by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) for many years. It was initially free of charge and very popular, especially for new hams. Later the ARRL began charging for the award and its popularity waned. Finally, in 2004, the ARRL decided to discontinue the award due to lack of interest. In view of the history and goodwill embodied in this most noble of ham radio activities, Rag Chewing, SPAR has reactivated this unique and illustrious award.

Over the last year I asked several members if any of them ever received a Rag Chewers Award. I was surprised to find out the no one I asked had ever heard of the award.

I think I'll see if SPAR will allow me one of the new awards for a QSO that resulted in me getting one when I worked W6UJO on September 8, 1953 for over an hour on CW. My Call letters then were W6BIB and I still have his QSL card with the recommendation for the award....Never hurts to try!

Pacificon 2015

October 16-18, 2015 at the San Ramon Marriott
in San Ramon, CA

Registration is OPEN!!

Reserve your Tickets and Hotel Room now.

Vendor and Non-Profit Exhibitor registration is OPEN!!
Reserve your spaces now!

Pacificon gives you three great days of activities for one low cost: A full slate of outstanding Forum presentations about a wide range of amateur radio topics, a large Vendor Expo filled with exciting products and exhibits, an outdoor Swap Meet, great QRP activities, a Youth Forum and great Youth Activities

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PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

VACAVALLEY RADIO CLUB, INC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Please Print & Fill in Completely. Dues are owed ANNUALLY on your original billing date.

Full Name: _____

Handle: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Primary) -(_____)_____-_____ OK to Publish? Y / N
Other -(_____) _____-_____ OK to Publish? Y / N

License Class: _____ ARRL Member ? (_____)

E-Mail : _____

FAMILY Member (Spouse or Children)

Full Name: _____ Handle: _____
Call Sign_____ Lic. Class: _____ARRL Member? Y / N

Full Name: _____ Handle: _____
Call Sign_____ Lic. Class: _____ARRL Member? Y / N

MEMBER Dues	$25.00	_____
Each Family Member	$ 2.00	_____
Student	$ 5.00	_____
Repeater/Autopatch donation	$(__)	_____
Call/Name badge	$11.00	_____
		_____
Paid by CASH:		
Check #		_____
		_____

DATE: _____

Optional ARRL membership:

Go to www.ARRL.org and save $2.00 on your ARRL membership by entering "Vaca Valley Radio Club" (VVRC) as your radio club.

Mail to : Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625-0143